

## Director's Note

Linda M. G. Zerilli, Faculty Director  
Charles E Merriam Distinguished Professor of Political Science and the College  
Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies

Dear Friends of the Center,

I hope you have had a chance to come by the newly remodeled building at 5733 South University Avenue. Our first year here has been filled with great events organized and hosted by our dedicated faculty and staff. I am also delighted to say that the first year of the new CSGS College Civilizations Core two-quarter sequence, "Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations," has been a great success. Our first year was oversubscribed and we have had excellent feedback from the participants. Thanks again to our team of distinguished faculty, Daisy Delogu, Susan Gal, Don Kulik, and Sonali Thakkar, who taught the inaugural year. We are grateful to have Susan Burns, Rochona Majumdar, Kristen Schilt, and Tara Zahra teaching next year's sequence. If faculty are interested in making the CSGS Core part of their College Core teaching, please be in touch with either Sarah Tuohey or myself about years 2015-16 and beyond.

The rapid growth of the Center has called for an expansion of our staff positions. I want to welcome our new full-time program coordinator, Tate Brazas. Tate worked as an Administrative Coordinator at Children's Hospital & Research Center at Oakland and has an MA in Sexuality Studies from San Francisco State University. Please stop by the Center to meet Tate and see the website for more information on her interests in feminist and queer studies. You can view staff biographies at: <http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/about/leadership.shtml>

As you know, the Center has a special commitment to fostering a teaching and research environment that will help our students move on to enriching careers beyond their degree work at Chicago. Please see Page 3 on the postdoctoral and teaching positions that GSS students have won this year. We are also deeply pleased by the growth of the GSS major and minor and invite you to join us in June, as we celebrate students' accomplishments in a year-end awards ceremony.

Finally, I want to express a special thanks to CSGS staff members Gina Olson and Sarah Tuohey for their contributions to the Center in the long journey that took us from last year's temporary quarters in New Grad into our wonderful new space. In the spirit of their many efforts to advance gender and sexuality studies, I invite you to make the Center your intellectual home at UChicago.

## Faculty Projects and Center Programming

This year CSGS is hosting series of events around "[The Body](#)," approaching the theme from several critical perspectives and addressing issues such as reproductive rights, anorexia, disabilities, and transgender lived experience. Continuing this focus on "the Body," the theme of spring quarter's [Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop \(GSSW\)](#), curated by Hillary Chute (English), is Embodiment. Exploring questions of how the bodies we inhabit are influenced by and influence our existence in social spheres, including art, media, the classroom, and literature, embodiment is a theme that is deliberately broadly construed for the workshop to explore and a concept that has long both vexed and inspired studies across fields in gender and sexuality.

The [Artists' Salon](#) at the Center, directed by Professor Chute, will build on the success of winter quarter's exhibit *100 Butches* with the opening of [A.K. Summers's "Pregnant Butch."](#) In this final Artists' Salon show of the year, CSGS will continue to explore the theme of embodiment--and specifically, the butch--through exhibiting original ink and Bristol board pages from Summers's recently published graphic memoir *Pregnant Butch: Nine Long Months Spent in Drag*. On May 1, please join us for an opening reception and artists' talk by cartoonist A.K. Summers, exploring depictions of the experience of gender in comics. On May 7, the Salon will host "[STEALTH: A Work-in-Progress](#)" with Chase Joynt

# Collegiate News

## The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program

The Center for Gender and Sexuality Studies offers a major, with a choice between a generalist path and discipline-based path. Many of our majors, usually those who choose the discipline-based path, also pursue and complete one or even two other majors. We also offer a minor, which makes the most sense for students whose majors have little overlap with our courses. Descriptions of major and minor requirements can be found at <http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic/>. If you have questions about the major or minor and want to talk about how they might fit in with your general academic goals, call or email student affairs administrator Sarah Tuohey (773-702-2365; [stuohey@uchicago](mailto:stuohey@uchicago)) to talk or set up a meeting.

## Spring Courses

This spring, Gender and Sexuality Studies is sponsoring five great courses: “American Feminist Thought, from Abigail Adams to Sheryl Sanberg” (Emily Remus), “Girlhood in American Literature” (Megan Tusler), “Psychoanalysis and Feminism: Freud, Lacan, Klein, Winnicott and their Feminist Interlocutors” (Nir Ben Moshe – who is holding a Tave Teaching Fellowship), and “Migration and Women’s Rights in Literature and Film” (Roxana Galusca, Harper-Schmidt Fellow). Check out all offerings on our Courses web page at <http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic/courses.shtml>.

## Exciting New Course in Spring 2015

A new course titled “Theories of Gender and Sexuality” will be offered to undergraduates next spring; it will be a requirement in the GSS major and minor for students who enter the College in Autumn 2014. It will be co-taught by Lauren Berlant, George M. Pullman Distinguished Service Professor of English, and Kristen Schilt, Assistant Professor of Sociology. Profs. Berlant and Schilt attended a recent GSS majors/minors meeting to gather input from students who have taken GSS courses in the past and those who will be doing the bulk of their GSS coursework beginning next year.

## Undergraduate Summer Internships for 2014

CSGS is funding, with support from the College, four undergraduate internships in the Chicago area this summer. Sara Rubinstein and Kris Rosenthal, both current second-years, will be working at Affinity Community Services and on a UIC project with homeless LGBTQ youth, respectively, and Jay Bach and Mallory Van Meeter are nearing the end of their searches.

## “Food and the Body” Undergraduate/MA Student conference April 25

The Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality will host an all-day conference, “Food and the Body” on Friday, April 25 at 5733. S. University. There will be a host of academic papers and creative presentations on such issues as eating disorder-focused online communities, food and nutrition policy, body image and the media, and the gendered body. All are welcome, and we hope to see you there!

## Lunch with Kristen Schilt and Chase Joynt May 14

CSGS Director of Studies Professor Kristen Schilt and multi-media artist Chase Joynt, who have challenged students and others this year with their “Tell Me the Truth” project (see <https://graycenter.uchicago.edu/experiments/tell-me-the-truth>) will make their final appearance together at a lunch with students at the Center at noon on May 14 (RSVP only; check CSGS web calendar for more details). The lunch will not constitute a total farewell, however, as Joynt and Schilt will present some of their latest collaborative work as a preview to their upcoming November symposium.

---

### CSGS Staff

**Linda Zerilli, Faculty Director**

**Gina Olson, Associate Director**

**Sarah Tuohey, Student Affairs Administrator**

**Tate Brazas, Program Coordinator**

**Skylar Liam Spear, Intern**

---



Artist and activist Kim Crosby at the opening of the Artists' Salon winter quarter exhibit, “100 Butches” by Elisha Lim.

# Graduate Studies

Several CSGS fellows and graduate student teachers have secured wonderful positions for 2014-15 and beyond. **Alisha Jones**, 2013-14 CSRPC-CSGS Dissertation Fellow, will be an assistant professor in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology at Indiana University. **Claire McKinney**, 2012-13 CSGS Dissertation Fellow and teacher, will be the American Cultural Studies Postdoctoral Fellow in Family and Intimate Relations at Washington University-St. Louis. **Monica Mercado**, 2012-13 CSGS Dissertation Fellow, preceptor, teacher, and Co-coordinator of the *Closeted/Out in the Quadrangles: A History of LGBTQ Life at the University of Chicago* project, will be Director of the The Albert M. Greenfield Digital Center for the History of Women's Education at Bryn Mawr College. **Emily Remus**, 2012-13 CSGS Dissertation Fellow and teacher, will be a Visiting Scholar at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. And finally, **Emily Swafford**, 2013-14 Residential Fellow and teacher, has already taken up her position as Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the German Historical Institute.

## Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop (GSSW) provides participants with an interdisciplinary forum for the development of critical perspectives on gender and sexuality. The workshop discusses pre-circulated papers written by University of Chicago graduate students, faculty, and visiting scholars, as well as provides a forum for lectures and job talks. Attendees are expected to read the paper in advance of the workshop meeting; papers are made available on the GSSW Blog, <http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/genderandsexuality/> or via our email list. If you are interested in being included on the workshop email list, please email this year's student co-coordinators.: Amanda Blair and Claire McKinney: [GSSWorkshop@gmail.com](mailto:GSSWorkshop@gmail.com)

## Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group

The working group, founded this academic year, meets biweekly on Tuesdays (alternating with the GSSW) in the First Floor Seminar Room from 4:30 to 6:00. To be added to the Working Group e-mail list, please contact the coordinators Omie Hsu and Katie Hendricks at [gssworkinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:gssworkinggroup@gmail.com).



Students get a jump on their writing at one of this year's Write-ins at CSGS organized by the GSSW.

## Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

*Tuesdays, 4:30-6pm*  
*First Floor Seminar Room*

### Embodiment

April 1

Hillary Chute, Neubauer Family Assistant Professor of English, University of Chicago  
"Bodies in the Classroom"

April 18

CSGS Student Symposium

April 22

Jill Weinberg, Sociology, Northwestern University  
"Law, Consent, and Embodiment"

April 29

Tadhi Coulter, Institute for Doctoral Studies in Visual Art  
"Embodiments of Transformation: Image-Texts of Sovereignty in Comedic Performances of Good Times"

May 13

Riva Lehrer, Artist, Chicago  
"Beauty in Exile"

May 27

Margaret Fink, English, University of Chicago  
"The Graphic Ordinary; Worlding, Race, and the Appearance of Disability in Chris Ware's Building Stories"

and Alexis Mitchell, a one-time-only feedback screening. *STEALTH* merges hidden camera footage of a patient's surgical procedure with performative vignettes of the objects featured in these medical encounters to explore the intimate and objectifying experience of the surgical table.

On April 11, graduate students from UChicago and area universities will present works-in-progress on questions of [sexual and reproductive justice](#) in a one-day conference. On April 25, the "[Food and the Body](#)" conference will feature academic papers and creative presentations on eating disorder-focused online communities, food and nutrition policy, body image and the media, and the gendered body. The conference is organized by undergraduates Stephanie Bi '16, Alana Cole '15, Alison Greatsinger '14, and Nia Sotto '14 with Sarah Tuohey, CSGS Student Affairs Administrator.

On April 3, the [Civil Islam Initiative \(CII\)](#) will host "Islam, Sharia and Alternative Dispute Resolution: A Moderated Book Discussion with Dr. Mohamed M. Keshavjee" exploring his work on conflict resolution and legal redress in the Muslim Community. CII will also host Scott Kugle (Emory) on April 7 for "Rethinking Homosexuality in Islam," and on April 8, Professor Kugle will run an interactive workshop, "Progressive Islamic Approaches to Sexuality and Gender Diversity" to help students engage in research about sexuality and gender in Islamic culture. CII Project Director Zahra Jamal was named as a delegate to The Concordia Forum in September 2013, and addressed the United Nations NGO Committee on Mental Health Parallel Event as part of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations 58th General Assembly in March 2014.

To date, [Closeted/Out in the Quadrangles: A History of LGBTQ Life at the University of Chicago](#) has collected over 80 oral histories and has built a growing document of archival materials on LGBTQ life at UChicago from the early twentieth century until the present. On May 15, CSGS will open a four-week [preview to the long-term exhibition](#) project. Highlights from the first year of collecting will be on display, showcasing the work of the Center's student oral history researchers. On Saturday of Alumni Weekend, June 7 join fellows and faculty for an opportunity to tour the CSGS display and discuss plans for the 2015 exhibition planned for Special Collections Research Center.

As part of their year-long project, [Tell Me the Truth](#) (exploring the construction of public narratives about transgender identities, funded by the Gray Center Mellon Fellowship for Arts Practice and Scholarship), Kristen Schilt (Sociology) and Chase Joynt, Toronto-based filmmaker, performer & writer, have organized a [performance by Sister Spit](#), the lesbian-feminist spoken-word and performance art collective on April 14 at the Logan Center. Earlier that day, join Sister Spit performers for [lunch and conversation at CSGS](#). And on May 14, join Kristen and Chase at a [lunch at CSGS](#) as they say goodbye to a year full of programming, collaboration and creation where they will present their latest collaborative work as a preview to their upcoming November symposium.

Several graduate student-led events are planned for this quarter. In addition to the April 11 graduate working conference organized by GSSW Co-coordinator Claire McKinney, on Monday, April 14, GSSW Co-coordinator Amanda Blair has organized a panel on "[Feminist Economics](#)," featuring Julie Nelson (University of Boston), Eileen Boris (UC Santa Barbara), and Diana Strassmann (Rice University). On April 18, join us for a [symposium featuring CSGS Graduate Student Fellows'](#) research projects, as well as undergraduate students who are writing BA papers on issues related to gender and sexuality. Presenters include: Emily Remus, Samuel Perry, Alisha Jones, Abigail Ocobock, Erin Moore, Emily Lord Fransee, Ellen Kladky, and Colin Low.

On Saturday, May 3, CSGS and the Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture will host, the [Genius for Men \(GFM\) Symposium](#), a one-day event exploring the ways in which black men are redefining achievement and community engagement. GFM symposiums, organized by Alisha Jones, CSGS/CSRPC Joint Dissertation Fellow, seek to challenge the narrow, popular culture images of black male achievement and expose attendees to men who are meeting the mark through rigorous academic research and civic engagement in their communities. The symposium will be a black male safe space, open to all those who would like to acquaint themselves with issues that black men face.

[Intimacy in Africa](#) is a new film series curated and organized by CSGS Fellow Erin Moore held in the Spring 2014 quarter through the Center for international Studies. The series features cinema related to domesticity, intimacy, sexuality, subjectivity and affect in Africa. On May 13, the series will host a screening of the feature-length documentary *God Loves Uganda* -- a powerful exploration of the evangelical campaign to change African culture with values imported from America's Christian Right, following American and Ugandan religious leaders fighting "sexual immorality" and missionaries trying to convince Ugandans to follow Biblical law. Following the screening, join us at CSGS for an intimate conversation with filmmaker Roger Ross Williams, moderated by Brandon Hill from Ci3.

Plans will soon be announced for the Centers' year-end events! Please check the website for updates.

**5733 South University Avenue | Chicago, IL 60637**

**773.702.9936 | [csgs@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:csgs@lists.uchicago.edu) | [gendersexuality.uchicago.edu](http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu)**